

(NOPB)¹ over its trackage between milepost 449.9, at East Bridge Junction Interlocking, Shrewsbury, LA, and milepost 921.14, at Lambert Junction Interlocking, New Orleans, LA, a total distance of approximately 2.6 miles.

The transaction was scheduled to be consummated on October 21, 1996.

The trackage rights will facilitate economical and efficient operation of NOPB's overhead traffic through Shrewsbury and New Orleans.

As a condition to this exemption, any employees affected by the trackage rights will be protected by the conditions imposed in *Norfolk and Western Ry. Co.—Trackage Rights—BN*, 354 I.C.C. 605 (1978), as modified in *Mendocino Coast Ry., Inc.—Lease and Operate*, 360 I.C.C. 653 (1980).

This notice is filed under 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(7). If it contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*. Petitions to revoke the exemption under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) may be filed at any time. The filing of a petition to revoke will not automatically stay the transaction.

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to STB Finance Docket No. 33182, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Branch, 1201 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20423. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on Myles L. Tobin, Esq., Illinois Central Railroad Company, 455 North Cityfront Plaza Drive, Chicago, IL 60611-5504.

Decided: October 22, 1996.

By the Board, David M. Konschnik,
Director, Office of Proceedings.

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-27804 Filed 10-29-96; 8:45 am]

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[STB Finance Docket No. 33139]

Wisconsin & Southern Railroad Co.— Lease and Operation Exemption— Union Pacific Railroad Company

Wisconsin & Southern Railroad Co., a Class III short line rail carrier, has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.41 to acquire by lease and operate three interconnecting lines that total approximately 73.62 miles of rail lines owned by Union Pacific Railroad Company and located in the State of Wisconsin as follows: (1) The Reedsburg Line between milepost 134.0 at Madison and milepost 191.9 at Reedsburg; (2) the

Cottage Grove Industrial Lead between milepost 81.0 (a point diverging from the Reedsburg Line at about milepost 139.3 in Madison) and milepost 71.0 at Cottage Grove; and (3) the Central Soya Industrial Lead between milepost 83.78 (a point diverging from the Reedsburg Line at about milepost 136.7 in Madison) and milepost 89.50 in Madison. The proposed transaction was to be consummated on or about October 20, 1996.

If the notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*. Petitions to revoke the exemption under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) may be filed at any time. The filing of a petition to revoke will not automatically stay the transaction.

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to STB Finance Docket No. 33139, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Branch, 1201 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20423 and served on: Robert A. Wimbish, Rea, Cross & Auchincloss, Suite 420, 1920 N Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036.

Decided: October 22, 1996.

By the Board, David M. Konschnik,
Director, Office of Proceedings.

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-27805 Filed 10-29-96; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Fiscal Service

Treasury Current Value of Funds Rate

AGENCY: Financial Management Service, Fiscal Service, Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of rate for use in Federal debt collection and discount evaluation.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 11 of the Debt Collection Act of 1982 (31 U.S.C. 3717), the Secretary of the Treasury is responsible for computing and publishing the percentage rate to be used in assessing interest charges for outstanding debts on claims owed the Government. Treasury's Cash Management Regulations (I TFM 6-8000) also prescribes use of this rate by agencies as a comparison point in evaluating the cost-effectiveness of a cash discount. Notice is hereby given that the applicable rate is 5 percent for calendar year 1997.

DATES: The rate will be in effect for the period beginning on January 1, 1997 and ending on December 31, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Inquiries should be directed to the Program Compliance & Evaluation Division, Financial Management Service, Department of the Treasury, 401 14th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20227 (Telephone: (202) 874-6630).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The rate reflects the current value of funds to the Treasury for use in connection with Federal Cash Management systems and is based on investment rates set for purposes of Pub. L. 95-147, 91 Stat. 1227. Computed each year by averaging investment rates for the 12-month period ending every September 30 for applicability effective January 1, the rate is subject to quarterly revisions if the annual average, on the moving basis, changes by 2 per centum. The rate in effect for calendar year 1997 reflects the average investment rates for the 12-month period ended September 30, 1996.

Dated: October 17, 1996.

Larry D. Stout,

Assistant Commissioner, Federal Finance.

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BILLING CODE 4810-35-M

Internal Revenue Service

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Form 8023-A

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning Form 8023-A, Corporate Qualified Stock Purchases.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before December 30, 1996 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Garrick R. Shear, Internal Revenue Service, room 5571, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the form and instructions should be directed to Martha R. Brinson, (202) 622-3869, Internal Revenue Service, room 5571, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

¹ NOPB is a local autonomous agency of the City of New Orleans. It is an independent railroad and is not part of any railroad system.